

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION WASHINGTON OR 2000

November 24, 2004

J. Peter Clements, Treasurer Republican Party of Virginia, Inc. 115 East Grace Street Richmond, VA 23219

Response Due Date: December 27, 2004

RO-2

Identification Number: C00001305

Reference:

October Monthly Report (9/1/04-9/30/04)

Dear Mr. Clements:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. An adequate response must be received at the Commission by the response date noted above. An itemization of the information needed follows:

The totals listed on Lines 7, 21(b), 21(c), 30(b), 30(c), 31, 32, 36 and 37, Column B of the Summary and Detailed Summary Page(s) appear to be incorrect. Please be advised that you should add the "Calendar Year-to-Date" total from your previous report to the current "Total This Period" figure from Column A to derive the correct Column B totals Please amend your report and any subsequent reports that may be affected by this correction.

The outstanding balance of a debt owed to a creditor at the close of one report should be exactly the same as the outstanding balance beginning the period of the next report. This report shows a beginning outstanding balance(s) to Feather Larson & Synborst, which is not identical to the ending outstanding balance(s) for the creditor(s) on the 2004 September Monthly Report. Please amend your report to clarify the discrepancy.

-Commission Regulations require that a committee disclose the identification of all individuals who contribute in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. (11 CFR §104.3(a)(4)(i)) Identification for an individual is defined as the full name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer. (11 CFR §100.12) Your report discloses contributions from individuals for which the identification is not complete.

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You must provide the missing information, or if you are unable to do so, you must demonstrate that "best efforts" have been used to obtain the information. To establish "best efforts," you must provide the Commission with a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. Establishing "best efforts" is a three-fold process.

First, your original solicitation most include a clear and conspicuous request for the contributor information and must inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information. (1) CFR §104.7(b)(1))

Second, if the information is not provided, you must make one follow-up, stand alone effort to obtain this information, regardless of whether the contribution(s) was solicited or not. This effort must occur no later than 30 days after receipt of the contribution and may be in the form of a written request or an oral request documented in writing. (11 CFR § 104.7(b)(2)) The request must:

- clearly ask for the missing information, without soliciting a contribution;
- inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information, and
- if the request is written, include a pre-addressed post card or return envelope.

Third, if you receive contributor information after the contribution(s) has been reported, you shall either a) file with your next regularly scheduled report, an amended memo Schedule A listing all the contributions for which additional information was received; or b) file on or before your next regularly scheduled reporting date, amendments to the report(s) originally disclosing the contribution(s). (11 CFR §104.7(b)(4))

Please provide the missing information or a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. For more information on demonstrating "best efforts," please refer to the Campaign Guide.

-Schedule B supporting Line 21(b) of your report discloses a payment(s) totaling \$39,381.73 for "direct mail," "direct mail expense" and "telemarketing". Expenditures and disbursements for public communications (as defined under 11 CFR §100.26) that refer to a clearly identified candidate for Federal office and that promote, support, attack or oppose any candidate for Federal office, meet the definition of Federal

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Election Activity under 11 CFR §100.24 and should be disclosed on Schedule B for Line 30(b) along with the identity of the candidate(s).

Further, public communications that meet the definition of Federal Election Activity and that also contain express advocacy as defined under 11 CFR §100.22, but do not meet the conditions of exempt activity, would constitute an in-kind contribution, an independent expenditure or a coordinated party expenditure and should be properly disclosed on a Schedule B, E or F supporting Lines 23, 24 or 25, as appropriate, rather than on Schedule B for Line 30(b). Please amend your report to properly disclose this activity or provide clarifying information.

-Schedule H4 of your report discloses a payment(s) for "voter file service". Please be advised that 11 CFR §100.24(b) defines as Federal Election Activity, Voter identification, Generic Campaign and Get-out-the-vote activities conducted in connection with an election in which one or more candidates for Federal office appear on the ballot. Furthermore, the costs for these types of Federal Election Activity must either be paid with federal funds or allocated between federal and Levin funds. It appears that you have allocated these costs between federal and non-federal funds. Any reimbursement from your committee's non-federal account for Federal Election Activity costs is not permissible and must be returned. 11 CFR §§300.32 and 300.33

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately or provide clarifying information regarding this activity. Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding this apparent prohibited activity, your prompt action will be taken into consideration.

-Please amend your report by providing the purpose for each disbursement itemized on Schodule B supporting Line(s) 21(b).

-itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why the disbursements were made. Please amend Schedule B of your report to clarify the following description(s): campaign materials. For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursements, please refer to 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3).

-Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why the disbursements were made. Please amend Schedule(s) H4 of your report to clarify the following description(s): "mo or od proc fee." For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursements, please refer to 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3).

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The coordinated expenditure schedule (Schedule F) should disclose the following information: the identification of the designating committee, the payee's name and address, the purpose of the expenditure, the identification of the candidate supported, the office sought, state and district (if applicable), the date and amount of the payment and the aggregate general election expenditure total for each candidate supported. Please amend Schedule F by providing identification of the candidate supported, the office sought, state and district (if applicable). 2 U.S.C. §441a(d)

Unlike previous election cycles, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses received on or before this date will be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered. Failure to provide an adequate response by this date may result in an audit of the committee. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action.

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirery, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1394.

Sincerely,

William S. Wiquist

Campaign Finance Analyst Reports Analysis Division